

Statement for the Environment Committee Friday March 12th at 10:30am Room 2B

My name is Jeff Going. I live in Essex, CT.

In 1986 the General Assembly created a piece of legislation that directed the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection to "make available" places for ATV's to ride in Connecticut.

It has not happened.

As recently as 2008, the DEP received over \$200,000 in grant money to hire a consultant to design riding trails for ATV's.

No state trails are available today.

ATV's are the only recreational activity not provided with a place to ride.

Because of the failure of DEP to follow the direction of the 1986 legislation, the State of Connecticut has lost millions in revenue from ATV registrations, riding fees and sales tax.

The motorsports community has done everything requested and yet they remain left out of the equation.

The proposal by CMBA (Connecticut Motorsports Industry Association) covers all of the elements needed to establish a sound program for universal registration, riding fees and penalties, which, if implemented, would bring in more than \$2 million a year in additional revenues.

There are over 100 businesses in the motorsports industry in Connecticut. These are small businesses from Mom and Pop operations to having 25 or more employees with multiple locations.

By providing quality state riding trails for ATV's you will improve in-state sales for ATV's, safety gear, clothing, trailers, etc. That also means more sales tax for the state.